

# MOLINEUX'S LIFE'S FIRST VISIT TO DEATH CELL.

With the Condemned Poisoner's Mother She Makes a Morning Journey to Sing Sing Prison.

Intricate Calculations by Which He Tries to Determine Whether He Is to Live or Die.

Read His Bible, Greeted Murderer Meyer Cheerfully, Ate a Hearty Breakfast and Wrote Letters.

The wife and mother of Roland B. Molineux visited Sing Sing this morning for the purpose of visiting the condemned man, and went at once to the prison.

They had left this city at 9.35 and were unaccompanied. With them they brought two trunks, which were sent to the house of Henry G. Miller, at 157 Spring street, where they have engaged rooms. From the windows of the house they saw the gray prison and the death-house as they approached.

The journey from the station to the prison was made in a sleigh. Warden Johnson received them and conducted them to the death-house. The interview was affecting. The women, who were allowed to give him no caresses and forbidden to even touch his hand, were fearful. Molineux was cool and spoke words of cheer to them.

It is evident from the preparations at the Miller house that the wife and mother of the condemned man will make a prolonged stay. Mr. Miller is a friend of Gen. Molineux and has placed at the disposal of the family the entire second floor. It is situated on the rise near the prison, of which it affords an excellent view.

Algebra of Life and Death. With a book of Vega's logarithms and a work on advanced algebra, Roland Molineux sat in his cell in the death-chamber at Sing Sing all yesterday and this morning, filling sheet after sheet with figures. To the inquisitive keepers those figures and signs meant nothing, but to the condemned man they were LIFE or DEATH.

When asked about his arithmetical calculations, Molineux said:

"I am trying to figure myself out of my trouble."

Roland Molineux's first Sunday in the death-house at Sing Sing Prison was a long, lonesome one. He sat in his dreary cell and watched keepers livery and Hubbel as they moved around like automata—silent and strict.

These men are very taciturn fellows, not from ill nature, but made so by their constant association with men condemned to death. Their faces are serious and their smiles come not easily.

Molineux likes happy faces and light nature. He therefore awaits with impatience the visits of Principal Keppel, Connaughton, who is a man of humor and strong sympathies.

"Mr. Connaughton, come in again soon, I like you," says Molineux every time the Head Keeper leaves.

Three times yesterday Mr. Connaughton visited the death-house, and his calls were like rays of sunshine to the prisoner.

Sunday a Dreary Day. Sunday in the death-house is the saddest, quietest day of the week. The inmates of this room of "last days" sit all day and brood over their troubles. No clergyman visits them, as on other days.

Chaplain Sanderson preaches in the chapel and conducts exercises for the great mass of the prison inmates. They hear good music and kind words of comfort. The choir of thirty convicts, chosen as only men can sing who are glad to speak in monotone the other days of the week.

The big pipe-organ, made by a convict who, it is now believed, never saw a pipe-organ, still refuses to answer its keys, but a good piano, played by a convict pianist, cheers the striped hordes, and to them Sunday is a happy day.

Molineux wrote a great deal yesterday. It is believed that he has begun the writing of a book telling the story of his "marriage," as he calls his trial and conviction. He is not writing because he has lost hope of a new trial and an



SING SING DEATH CELLS AND THEIR NINE OCCUPANTS.

## DID WEEKS MAKE A BLUNDER?

Every reader of the Evening World undoubtedly has some opinion or other on the Molineux case—an opinion of the guilt or innocence of the condemned man; of the justice or injustice of the jury's verdict; of the weak or strong points in the evidence produced by the prosecution; of the manner in which Molineux's lawyers handled his defense; of the things or things they might have done to prove him innocent; of their move in keeping him from the witness chair, and of not putting forward one word of testimony in his behalf.

The Evening World recognizes that the conviction of the young outman is the topic that is now on everybody's tongue, and that there are thousands who would like an opportunity to express their opinions. The prosecution has had its say and has been successful in winning the jury. The other side is only having its say now—too late, perhaps. It is, however, the only side that promises anything new, and there is

ultimate acquittal. Of this he is in his own mind certain. Molineux has received an offer from a responsible publisher to write a story of his trial, and it is believed he has begun such a work. He knows that should he go to the chair the proceeds from the sale of the book would be considerable.

Besides, it will keep him at work and take his mind off his troubles. The book will be not only interesting, but of some literary value, for the convicted man is a person of some literary taste and ability.

Greeted Murderer Meyer. Mr. Connaughton said to-day he knew nothing about Molineux's having started the book.

"He may start such a writing if he chooses," said Mr. Connaughton. "We will give him all the paper and pencils he needs."

Molineux arose at his usual hour yesterday. The bright sun's rays did not enter his cell to awaken him, but its genial light reflected from the prison walls made the death chamber glow.

He looked across the narrow aisle and saw Police Meyer, the pauper murderer of Policeman Connaughton, staring across at him through the bars.

"Good morning, Meyer," he said cheerfully.

Meyer, who does not speak a dozen words a week to anybody, nodded his head sullenly and granted his acknowledgment. Soon others of the condemned came to their cell doors and looked at their fellow prisoners who could be heard on the cement floor.

Ate Hearty Breakfast. A half hour passed and breakfast was served to the inhabitants of the death-chamber. Eggs, chops, rolls and coffee were served to each man. Molineux ate every particle of his allowance. He held the chop in his fingers and made the waiter spoon do service of knife and fork.

His breakfast disposed of, Molineux read a few chapters in the Bible and then took up the novel by Reade which he took from the prison library on Saturday. He found the story of the Italian who read the letters received from his wife and parents. Then he wrote a long letter to his wife and parents.

He told Mr. Connaughton, when the latter saw him before dinner, that he was perfectly satisfied with the trial and that he could be allowed to read the newspaper.

The head keeper replied that he was sorry, but the regulations could not be changed.

And so the day passed. Molineux missed his half hour's walk, but he will have that tomorrow.

Takes Vigorous Exercise. During this half hour Molineux uses every muscle in his body. He steps out briskly and swings his arms back and forth in a rhythmic motion. He does every form of calisthenic exercise. He exercises frequently in his cell.

On that day the curtain before his cell was suddenly dropped. Keeper Connaughton will enter the chamber in company with Chaplain Sanderson. The door of Ferraro's cell will be opened, and if he makes no outcry or resistance only the more intelligent of the other inmates will know what is happening.

Said Mr. Connaughton to-day, "Molineux receives no greater liberties here than the Italian murderer Pirri. All are treated alike."

"He cannot receive any delicacies sent here by his friends or relatives. Neither will his relatives see him any more frequently because they are coming here to live. They may see him twice a week, not oftener."

At these visits the curtains of the other cells are lowered. A keeper sits before Molineux's cell door. They will talk across him. He will see and hear everything.

## DR. M'LANE HAMILTON.

Condemns Whole Proceedings of Molineux Case—Recorder Was Unfair.

Dr. Allan McLane Hamilton, the eminent specialist who was engaged by the defense in the Molineux case, has written a letter condemning the pro-

**\$100 IN PRIZES. \$100**  
**WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE DONE TO SAVE MOLINEUX HAD YOU BEEN HIS LAWYER?**

Interest to know what it has to say. The Evening World invites it to speak out, and that those who think Molineux was unjustly convicted may state their reasons as succinctly and forcibly as possible. It puts the invitation in this shape: The Evening World will give \$100 in four prizes of \$25, \$25, \$25 and \$25 for the best letter telling in 100 words—not more than 100 words, remember—what you could or would have done to save Molineux had you been his lawyer.

The question to answer is this: WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE DONE TO SAVE MOLINEUX HAD YOU BEEN HIS LAWYER?

What evidence would you have offered? What witnesses would you have called? Is there any new light you could have thrown upon the case?

Send letters to "Molineux Case Editor," Evening World, P. O. Box 264, New York City. Do not write more than 100 words.

reached a stage where debasing sensationalism has been used to with the conviction of the defendant; and the behavior of a certain part of the press, the hazy and cheap oratory of George W. Brown, the handwriting expert, are certain expressions of an unimpaired degeneration incident to the time.

"FAIR TRIAL"—GARDINER. Dr. Hamilton's statements are foolish, declares the District Attorney.

In regard to Dr. Hamilton's statements, District Attorney Gardiner said to-day:

"Mr. Osborne conducted the prosecution in the Molineux case under my direction and advice. Until the middle of the case, I was personally with him. His course of action was eminently fair and legal, and had my concurrence. Nothing in that course of evidence was lacking and there was no overplay. The verdict was just."

"Despite my great feeling for the prisoner, I had the case prosecuted as if the prisoner were any one else. Twice before Police Magistrate Molineux had a chance to defend himself. He did not. Neither did he when on trial for his life. Conclusions must be drawn from this fact."

The trial was before a jury selected after five weeks' work, and acceptable to Molineux and his counsel.

Dr. Hamilton's statements about hypnotism and mind-reading are foolish. Why do we not say he was there to hypnotize the jury in favor of the defendant?

BOY HELD FOR PERJURY. Young Schoen Was a Witness Before Justice Furman—Made Many Affidavits.

Henry Irvin Schoen, of 311 East Forty-ninth street, a witness for the defense in the trial of Lawyer Ernest M. Welch, charged with subornation of perjury, was placed under arrest this morning by Justice Furman in the criminal branch of the Supreme Court, where Welch is on trial.

Schoen is only seventeen years old. For the third time he had sworn to a different set of facts concerning the accident in which it is alleged Welch suborned witnesses to commit perjury.

Before Justice MacLean he testified he had seen a brewery truck strike a child; that the driver was reading a book and a boy was driving the truck. In the second trial he made no reference to this fact.

Arthur Palmer, counsel for Welch, placed Schoen on the stand. He said he had made an affidavit for the District Attorney under coercion. "I was taken to a small room in the District Attorney's office," Schoen declared, "and I was afraid I couldn't get out. I then signed what they wanted. Mr. Palmer produced a copy of the affidavit."

Schoen now swears that all he saw of the accident was a child lying on the ground. That shortly after the accident he saw M. Welch charged with perjury. Dependent further states that all the testimony which he gave upon the trial was the same as what he said in the first trial.

Schoen charged Assistant District Attorney Gray had written out the affidavit and forced him to sign it.

Assistant District Attorney McIntyre, who is prosecuting Welch, produced a copy of the affidavit. Schoen said he would have Schoen indicted for perjury.

ANOTHER TROLLEY VICTIM. George Armstrong, thirty-five years old, of 147 Saratoga avenue, Brooklyn, was struck to-day by Gates avenue trolley car 120 at Cleeve and Green avenues.

Armstrong rolled under the trolley and was carried along the track for a distance before the car could be stopped.

At St. John's Hospital it was found he had a concussion of the brain and a possible fracture of the spine. The condition was serious.

## DAN HANNA WEDS MRS. GORDON MAUD.

(Special to The Evening World.)

CLEVELAND, Feb. 18.—The marriage of Dan R. Hanna, son of Senator Hanna, and Mrs. Daisy Gordon Maud took place here this afternoon.

Dan Hanna is the divorced husband of May Harrington Hanna, who called for Europe last week with her three sons.

Mrs. Maud recently obtained a divorce from Walter S. Maud, an Englishman. She has a national reputation for wit and beauty and is a niece of Mrs. William S. Jaffray and Mrs. Edward Padel-ford.

## BOY MUST NOT KNOW A DEITY.

Would Not Write "God" in Dictation Lesson.

Carl S. Bliner, steward of the Ar-better Building Verein von Nord New York, who lives at 541 East One Hundred and Fifty-seventh street, was a prisoner in the Morrisania Police Court to-day because he persisted in refusing to send his boy, Carl, twelve years old, to the public school.

Magistrate Deuel commanded him to send the boy to school, and Bliner said that he would do so if the boy should be allowed to leave the room whenever anything about God was mentioned.

Bliner wanted to send his boy to a private school three days a week, but the educational authorities insisted that he should attend Public School 52, which he had attended.

On Dec. 8, Miss Margaret Marvin, young Bliner's teacher in the fourth grammar grade in School 52, gave as a dictation exercise this extract from Olinghouse:

"As to our work as well, both the unseen and the seen: Make the house where God may dwell beautiful, calm and clean."

Young Bliner wrote the lines correctly, but left out the word "God." The teacher asked him to write it over. He did so, but again left out the same word.

She asked him why. The boy replied that his father forbade him to speak or write the word, as there was no such thing as God, the principal, sent him home with a note.

In court Bliner said that this was the third time he had been compelled to take his children away from the public schools because the teachers insisted on religious teachings. He said he was an atheist and did not believe in God. He learned nongovernmental ideas about things that do not exist.

Magistrate Deuel said that nothing was to be taught in the school that he should not know. He ordered Bliner to take the boy to school, and said that if he did not he would have him arrested again.

## ODD SUICIDE AT SEVENTY.

White Was Dependent Because He Could Get No Woman to Take Care of Him.

(Special to The Evening World.) NEW HAVEN, Conn., Feb. 18.—Tired of living alone and dependent because he could get no woman to care for him in his declining years, David P. White, aged seventy, committed suicide yesterday in the yard of his home on Derby turnpike near here.

His body was found by a man who noticed it partly covered by the snow. The old man had tied an antique mauler to the trunk of an apple tree and fixed a string to the trigger.

Turning his back, he had pulled the string and blown the back of his head off. He was reputed to be a man of means, and his only heir, a granddaughter, Nellie White, aged twenty-three, is in New York.

## TO REORGANIZE ARMY.

Chairman Hull Offers a Bill in Congress Prepared by the War Department.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—Chairman Hull, of the House Committee on Military Affairs, today introduced a bill prepared by the War Department authorizing to reorganize the army.

A chief feature of the legislation asked for provides for one-third of the promotion to be made by selection. This is to enable the President to reward especially meritorious services.

The bill gives the President control of the tenure of office of the heads of staff departments, and he can, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, make a new head of the department at any time.

The only immediate result under this provision would be the probable retirement of the Chief of Staff, General Pershing, now undergoing suspension.

The reorganization of the artillery, the only change proposed in the line of the army, is based on advance ideas that are largely in use in other countries and is called for by the present system of sea-coast defense.

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## BULLER WINS.

(Continued from First Page.)

Mafeking has been relieved, but that the Boers are trying to conceal the information.

## MYSTERY ABOUT ROBERTS.

Rumors of Cronje's Capture Not Home Out—Where Are His Big Guns?

LONDON, Feb. 18.—Practically nothing is known of the progress of Lord Roberts's columns during the last day or two, and speculation as to the ultimate gain from the recent movements is necessarily unsatisfactory when based on belated telegrams evidently vigorously censored.

Many important points remain obscure. What has become of Gen. Cronje's heavy artillery? One correspondent, it is true, says it was left behind at Magerfontein and Kimberley, but it is difficult to believe Lord Roberts would not have mentioned a detail of such importance.

Again the statement that a large Boer force was massing northward of Kimberley once more raises in the minds of some experts the question whether Gen. Cronje is really with the force retreating on Bloemfontein.

It is suggested that the latter is really the Free State main army, under Gen. Prinsloo, supplemented by a portion of the Magerfontein command, while the main body of the latter, under Gen. Cronje, is trying to secure the Vaal Bridge at Fourteen Streams, thus barring the way to Mafeking.

No official support is given to the rumors that Gen. Cronje with 7,000 Boers has been forced to surrender by Gen. Kitchener and Gen. Kelly-Kenny's pursuit. It is known that the Boers retreating on Bloemfontein have been severely harassed and over 150 wagons and 1,500 cattle have been captured. At latest reports this force numbered 10,000 men and 1,000 wagons.

In Cape Colony Gen. Brabant seems to be successfully clearing the road for the advance of Gen. Gatacre. A despatch from Lord Roberts dated Jacobabad, U. P., Feb. 18, Sunday, confirms the general movements regarding Gen. Brabant's movements.

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